



Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex

*FLATHEAD, HELENA, LEWIS & CLARK
AND LOLO NATIONAL FORESTS*

Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex

FIRE UPDATE, Monday August 20, 2012 (See [Inciweb maps](#) for locations):

Elbow Pass Complex Rocky Mountain Ranger District, Lewis and Clark National Forest, 19,712 Acres - The Elbow Pass Complex is comprised of five different lightning ignitions from July 12 through July 31. These four fires have merged into one fire, the Elbow Pass Complex: Triple Divide Fire, Rapid Creek Fire, Elbow Pass Fire, and Bar Creek Fire. The fires are generally located 25 miles west southwest of Augusta, Montana. The Falls Point fire is south of the Complex. All are located in inaccessible terrain in heavy fuels. The fires are in the Bob Marshall and Scapegoat Wilderness Areas and are on three forests.

There are 15,852 acres burned on the Lewis & Clark National Forest, 297 acres on the Lolo National Forest and 3,282 acres on the Flathead National Forest. The Falls Point Fire has had minimal spread and remains at 281 acres. Total for the Elbow Pass Complex is currently 19,712 acres

A Fire Use Module (firefighters) has been assigned to the Benchmark Trail Head for fire monitoring and for initial attack as needed. Fire growth was small in the general west/south west area of the fire.

Yesterday's Activities: Wildland Fire Module monitored fire spread in South Fork Sun River, took fuel moisture samples and weather observations. Helicopter GPS reconnaissance of fire for remapping of acreages. Falls Point fire was inactive with some smoke from the fire's interior.

Today's Planned Activities: Continue with Initial Attack responsibilities on Forest as requested. Continue structure protection and visitor contacts at Danaher, Basin, and Benchmark Trailhead. Wildland Fire Module will monitor fire spread in South Fork Sun River, take fuel moisture samples and weather observations. Helicopter reconnaissance of fire and some bucket work intending to delay fire spread in the South Fork of the Sun. Re-evaluate trail closures. <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3066/>

Prisoner Lake Fire Spotted Bear Ranger District, Flathead National Forest - The Fire was detected on July 30, 2012 in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Spotted Bear Ranger District. This fire is being managed for suppression. The fire continues to smolder and creep through the brush above Molly Creek. The fire has burned 4,080 acres and this fire transitioned from a Type 3 fire to a Type 4 fire (less activity and less complex fire) on 8-16-12. This will be the last update until conditions and/or fire behavior significantly changes. Fire history and past information is at: <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3065/>

Falls Point Fire Seeley Lake Ranger District, Lolo National Forest, 203 Acres — This fire is located entirely within the Scapegoat Wilderness, approximately two miles north of the Forest Service cabin at North Fork. Fire behavior primarily creeping and smoldering with occasional single tree torching. Planned actions are to monitor fire growth and spread. The fire engulfed the old Falls Point Lookout and burned it up; this tower had not been a subject of protection because of its decrepit condition. As of August 16th the Falls Point Fire has been added to the Elbow Pass Complex. Elbow Pass Complex fire information: <http://www.inciweb.org/incident/3067/>